COLORADO AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS 2000

Includes

ANNUAL REPORT

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FISCAL YEAR 1999-2000

FIESTA ROAST BEEF WITH TROPICAL FRUIT RELISH

1999 National Beef Cook-off "Best of Beef" Winner

Total Preparation and Cooking Time: 30 minutes

1 package (1 1/2 to 2 pounds) fully-cooked beef tri-tip roast

2 cans (8 to 8 1/4 ounces each) tropical fruit salad in light syrup

1 large orange

2 to 3 teaspoons spicy brown mustard

1/4 to 1/2 teaspoon hot pepper sauce

Salt and pepper

1/2 cup diced green bell pepper

Orange slices (optional)

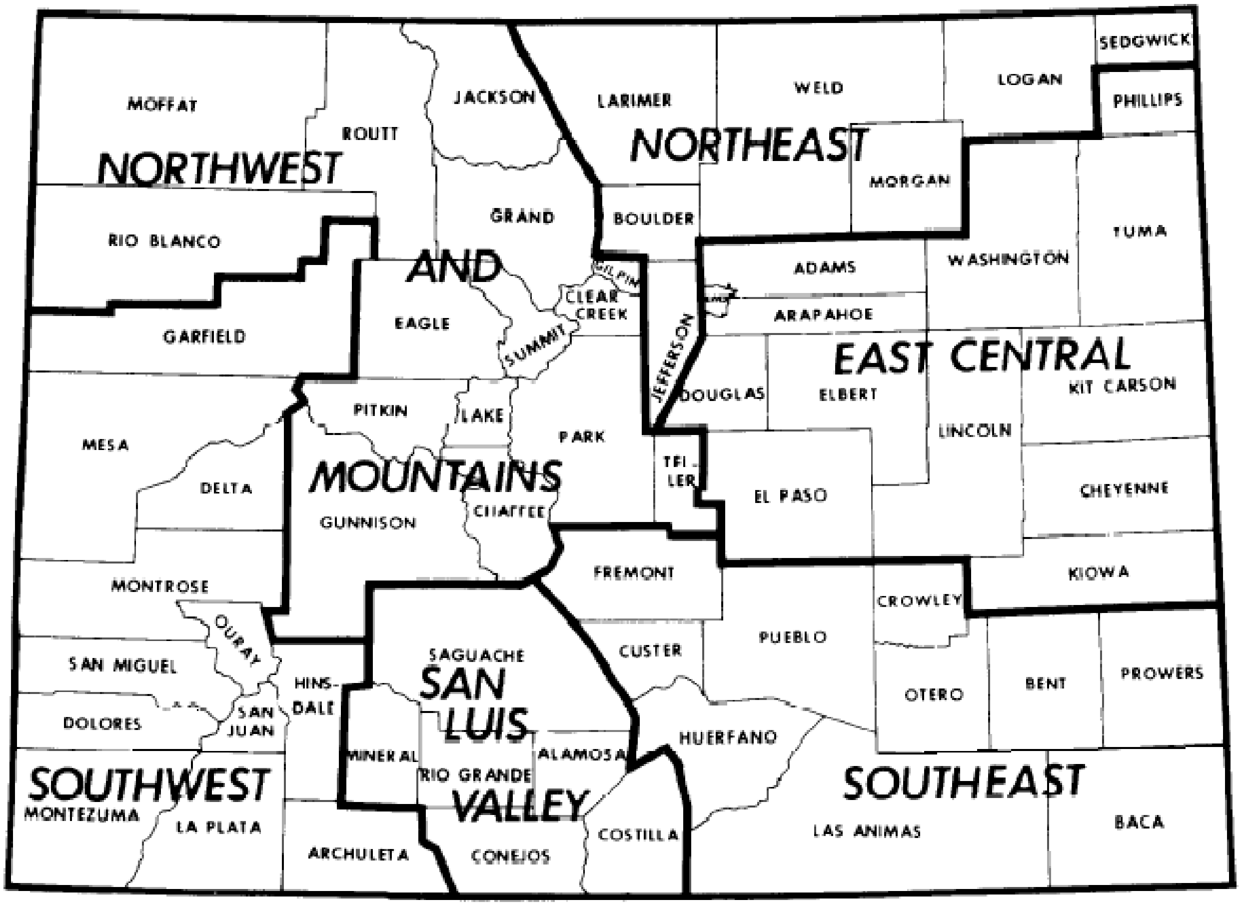
1. Remove beef tri-tip roast from package; place in microwave-safe dish. Transfer 3 to 4 tablespoons liquid from package to small sauce pan; set aside. Discard any remaining liquid or reserve for other use. Cover roast and microwave on high 7 to 10 minutes or until heated through. Let stand, covered, 5 minutes.
2. Meanwhile drain fruit salad, reserving 3 tablespoons of the syrup. Cut up any large pieces of fruit; set aside. Grate 1 teaspoon peel from orange; set aside. Cut orange in half. Squeeze juice from 1/2 orange; peel and chop orange sections from remaining 1/2.
3. Combine reserved syrup, orange juice, mustard, orange peel, pepper sauce, salt and pepper as desired, in medium bowl; add to beef liquid in saucepan. Set aside. Add reserved fruit, chopped orange and bell pepper to remaining orange juice mixture in bowl; mix well. Cover and refrigerate.
4. Carve roast across the grain into thin slices. Bring mixture in saucepan to a boil; remove from heat.
5. Arrange beef and fruit relish side-by-side on platter. Spoon hot sauce over beef, as desired. Garnish with orange slices, if desired.

American National Cattlewomen/National Cattlemen's Beef Association

Colorado Beef Council

789 Sherman Street Suite 105 Denver, CO 80203

COLORADO AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS



ASD by Number: Northwest and Mountains = 10; Northeast = 20; East Central = 60; Southwest = 70; San Luis Valley = 80; Southeast = 90

COLORADO

The Centennial State, admitted to the Union in 1876, is the eighth largest state in area and has the highest average elevation. The highest point is at Mount Elbert, 14,433 feet above sea level, one of the 53 "fourteeners" rising above 14,000 feet. The lowest elevation is 3,350 feet in extreme eastern Prowers County.

Approximate Land Area: 66.3 Million Acres *
Approximate Cropland Area: 10.5 Million Acres *
Approximate Irrigated Area: 3.4 Million Acres *
Number of Farms and Ranches (1999): 29,000
Land in Farms and Ranches (1999): 31.8 Million Acres
Average Size of Farm and Ranch (1999): 1,097 Acres

Farms by Type *

82%	Individual
10%	Partnership
7%	Corporate
1%	Other

Farms By Tenure *

58%	Full Owners
30%	Part Owners
12%	Tenants

Farms By Class *

57%	Livestock & Poultry
43%	Crops

* 1997 Federal Census of Agriculture

Farm Marketing Receipts (1998):	$ 4,309.5	Million
Livestock & Livestock Products:	$ 2,856.7	Million (66.3% of the total)
Field, Fruit, & Vegetable Crops:	$ 1,452.8	Million (33.7% of the total)

COLORADO
AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

1999 Preliminary - 1998 Revised
1994 - 1997 Historical Estimates

and

Annual Report 1999-2000
Colorado Department of Agriculture

Issued Cooperatively By

FACT FINDERS FOR AGRICULTURE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National **A**gricultural **S**tatistics **S**ervice

R. RONALD BOSECKER, Administrator

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DON AMENT, Commissioner

Prepared and Published by

COLORADO AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
645 Parfet Street, Room W201
Lakewood, Colorado 80215
(303) 236-2300 / 1-800-392-3202

R. Reneé Liles, State Statistician

Lance A. Fretwell, Deputy State Statistician

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special appreciation for funding the color cover on this publication and contributing to the "Colorado Beef Story" on pages 2 and 3 is extended to:

COLORADO BEEF COUNCIL
789 Sherman Street Suite 220   Denver, Colorado 80203
Phone: (303) 830-7892   FAX: (303) 830-7896

Bert Hartman, Chairman
Fred Lombardi, Executive Director

July 2000

Price $15.00

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

700 Kipling Street, Suite 4000
Lakewood, Colorado 80215-5894
(303) 239-4100
(303) 239-4125 FAX

Bill Owens
Governor

Don Ament
Commissioner

Robert G. McLavey
Deputy Commissioner

July, 2000

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your contributions to the 2000 Colorado Agricultural Statistics book. I want the citizens of this state to know who we are and how much open space, food and water for them and for wildlife we provide. People don't realize that nearly half of this state's acres are on our farms and ranches. I want Colorado agriculture's voice to be heard when decisions about our natural resources are made. This book shows how much you give to this state, the nation and the world.

While a few commodity prices have improved, Colorado's farmers and ranchers are still struggling to make a living and remain under pressure from those who don't understand the care and foresight that goes into what we do. All of us want to preserve our natural resources, but farmers and ranchers depend on those resources for their livelihoods. I am working to free you as much as possible from excessive regulation that creates an undue hardship on the very industry that provides the resource stewardship that is so critical to our future quality of life.

With the number of people in farming and ranching decreasing, our voice is harder to hear than ever. I am asking each and every one of you to take the time out of your busy days to speak up on behalf of agriculture to your state representatives and senators, your organizations and your press. Only together will they hear our voice, giving us an opportunity to help shape the future.

The Colorado Department of Agriculture's Annual Report, outlining the department's responsibilities, activities and services is in the back of this book. Some of the agriculture department's hot issues this fiscal year have been: animal diseases, wildlife species protection, Platte River Partnership, environmental quality protection, genetically altered crops, the Food Quality Protection Act and noxious weed management. Please take a minute to read about our challenges and our progress. You are always welcome to call us at 1-800-886-7683 and give us your comments.

Thank you for supporting Colorado's agricultural industry.

Sincerely,

Don Ament

Don Ament
Colorado Commissioner of Agriculture

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cattle and Beef Overview

As part of the current cattle cycle, U.S. beef production increased nearly 3.7 billion lbs. (17%) from 1990 to the cycle high in 1999. Production set a new record in 1999. Cyclical declines are expected from 2000 to 2003 (Over a 10-year cycle, cattle numbers and beef output generally expands and then decreases, in response to changes in costs, prices and profitability.) On a carcass weight basis, beef production continued to increase reaching 26.4 billion pounds in 1999.

The increase in beef output resulted from growth in total cattle numbers, from 95.8 million head in 1990 to a peak of 103.5 million in 1996. Although total cattle numbers have declined since 1996, to an estimated 99.1 million in 1999, the ongoing liquidation of the breeding herd is inflating beef production, maintaining output at historically high levels. Production of all meat and poultry is today at record levels, and average per capita consumption of red meat and poultry was 222.7 pounds, retail weight, in 1999. Average retail beef prices in 1999, at $2.61 per pound, have made strong increases over last year's $2.53, the lowest level of the current cycle.

Record total meat supplies and record-high feed costs resulted in sharp financial losses for most cattlemen in 1996, and initiated the first and most aggressive year of herd liquidation during the downsizing phase of the beef cycle. While cow liquidation has slowed from the 1996 peak, cyclical herd liquidation is continuing as producers continue to place a record number of heifers on feed, rather than retaining them for herd replacement purposes. The smaller herd will eventually mean a decrease in beef production and higher prices in 2000-2004. Calf and feeder cattle prices have already improved, and are expected to continue to improve during the next several years.

The feeding industry carried a backlog of market-ready cattle into 1999. This resulted in servere losses as heavyweight cattle added to production levels. Lost bargaining position and record-large pork production also weighed on prices. During 1999, profitability returned to all sectors of the cattle business because of good demand for feeder and fed cattle, and smaller supplies of feeders and calves combined with cheap feed grains. It is expected that market-ready supplies will be much tighter in Fall 2000, and the redirection of heifers away from the feedlot and towards the breeding herd will buoy the market prospects for 2000.

On a boneless weight basis, per capita consumption of beef in 1999 was 65.9 lbs., compared to 51.3 lbs of pork and 53.5 lbs. of chicken. Increased efficiency in production practices is helping keep beef No. 1.

A trend to more open trade and growing demand for quality grain-fed U.S. beef in foreign countries has fostered growth in beef exports, which now account for nearly 9 percent of beef output. Exports of U.S. cattle, beef, and beef products in 1999 totaled $3.2 billion. The top 1999 markets for U.S. beef were Japan, Mexico, Canada, Korea, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

Source: Statistics throughout based on USDA and National Cattlemen's Beef Association data

Colorado and National Checkoff Programs

In 1965, the Colorado Promotion and Marketing Beef Act formed what is now called the Colorado Beef Council (CBC), for the purpose of promoting beef consumption, educating consumers, and beef research. The mission of the new organization was to maintain and build demand for beef within Colorado, nationally, and internationally through support and extension of national and state market development programs. The very first checkoff collection rate was three cents per head collected by the Colorado Brand Board. The governing board consisted of two cattle ranchers, two feedlot operators, one dairy producer, one meat purveyor, one meat packer, and one livestock market operator. The same board representation continues to this day.

Currently, the Colorado Beef Council operates as a Qualified State Beef Council (QSBC) collecting a mandatory one-dollar per head under the authority of the Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board (CBB) formed in 1986. The QSBC's in each state may retain up to fifty cents of the money collected in the state for state promotions, but at least fifty cents must be sent to the CBB. The CBB consists of one hundred and ten members; one hundred and three are domestic beef producers and seven represent importers of beef and beef products. The Secretary of Agriculture appoints each board member from nominations submitted by certified nominating organizations.

The Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board is responsible for approving the annual budget for its national checkoff-funded programs. It contracts with established national, non-profit, industry-governed organizations to implement programs of promotion, research, consumer information, industry information, foreign marketing, and producer communications.

Moving Forward in the New Millennium

In Colorado and nationally, the beef industry is moving forward with an integrated campaign featuring two separate but complimentary messages targeted at American mothers. The first message or driver is one of convenience while the second driver is one of nutrition.

Convenience – Two-income households are a reality of today's lifestyles; consequently, consumers are looking for something quick and easy for dinner. The microwaveable beef entrees now available in the fresh meat case of most large retailers fill this need. The aim is to make these products common items at the American dinner table. This benefits the consumers through fulfilling their needs, but it also serves the needs of the beef industry through adding value to lesser cuts.

Nutrition – As an industry, it is time to tell consumers the good things about beef. It has zinc, iron, protein, niacin and other important B vitamins. By focusing on nutrition with a positive message, the intention is to make beef a smart choice at the dinner table.

The beef industry's goal is to increase the demand for beef through fulfilling the needs of today's busy consumers and positively influencing their nutritional views. The convenience driver and nutritional driver are both critical to this mission.

In Colorado, the Colorado Beef Council proudly supports both drivers through consumer events, and radio and television advertising. The advertising includes sports marketing with the Denver Broncos, Colorado Rockies, and the Colorado Avalanche. The Colorado Beef Council also focuses heavily on result-based marketing. In retail and foodservice programs, the Colorado Beef Council demands results from industry partners for true accountability.

Working with health professionals is also an important focus of the Colorado Beef Council. Through partnerships with the Colorado Dietetic Association and the American Heart Association, the Colorado Beef Council ensures that health professional and consumers receive accurate information.

Colorado Beef Council
Our mission is to increase the demand
for beef through marketing, education, research, and information.

Rank in Agriculture: Colorado's rank among states, 1999

Commodity	Unit	Colorado		Leading State		United States total
		Rank	Production	State	Production	
FIELD CROPS:						
Barley	1,000 bu.	5	9,030	North Dakota	59,520	281,853
Beans, dry edible	1,000 cwt.	4	2,755	North Dakota	8,265	33,230
Corn, grain	1,000 bu.	13	159,040	Iowa	1,758,200	9,437,337
Corn, silage	1,000 tons	12	2,400	Wisconsin	12,045	96,169
Hay, all	1,000 tons	15	4,598	Texas	13,135	159,077
Hay, alfalfa	1,000 tons	11	3,420	California	7,004	83,924
Hay, other	1,000 tons	23	1,178	Texas	12,420	75,153
Oats	1,000 bu.	24	1,300	Wisconsin	18,600	146,218
Potatoes, all	1,000 cwt.	4	28,130	Idaho	133,330	478,109
Potatoes, fall	1,000 cwt.	6	25,762	Idaho	133,330	429,847
Potatoes, summer	1,000 cwt.	3	2,368	Texas	2,960	18,865
Proso Millet	1,000 cwt.	1	8,160	Colorado	8,160	17,910
Rye	1,000 bu.	21	66	North Dakota	1,517	10,993
Sorghum, grain	1,000 bu.	9	8,610	Kansas	258,400	595,166
Sorghum, silage	1,000 tons	5	170	Kansas	1,440	3,716
Sugar beets	1,000 tons	7	1,459	Minnesota	9,447	33,319
Sunflowers, all	1,000 lbs.	4	348,450	North Dakota	1,866,250	4,341,862
Sunflowers, oil varieties	1,000 lbs.	4	232,200	North Dakota	1,403,000	3,497,820
Sunflowers, non-oil varieties	1,000 lbs.	2	116,250	North Dakota	463,250	844,042
Wheat, all 1/	1,000 bu.	8	107,200	Kansas	432,400	2,302,443
Wheat, spring 2/	1,000 bu.	8	4,000	North Dakota	168,000	503,132
Wheat, winter	1,000 bu.	4	103,200	Kansas	432,400	1,699,989
VEGETABLES: 3/						
Cabbage	1,000 cwt.	8	828	New York	4,961	22,069
Cantaloupe	1,000 cwt.	6	342	California	13,545	22,988
Carrots	1,000 cwt.	2	1,850	California	31,320	37,837
Corn, sweet	1,000 cwt.	7	1,072	California	5,735	27,248
Lettuce	1,000 cwt.	3	680	California	56,050	72,799
Onions (storage only)	1,000 cwt.	5	5,365	California	15,225	12,550
Spinach	1,000 cwt.	4	144	California	2,635	3,153
FRUITS:						
Apples	Mil lbs.	31	8.0	Washington	5,100	10,741
Cherries, tart	Mil lbs.	8	0.6	Michigan	185	255
Peaches	Mil lbs.	24	3.0	California	1,814	2,521
Pears	Tons	8	500	Washington	410,000	981,550
LIVESTOCK: 4/						
All cattle & calves	1,000 head	10	3,150	Texas	13,900	98,048
All cows 5/	1,000 head	17	920	Texas	5,780	42,734
All chickens	1,000 head	26	4,479	Ohio	40,438	436,326
All hogs & pigs	1,000 head	14	910	Iowa	15,400	59,407
All layers	1,000 head	22	3,800	Ohio	31,332	329,305
All sheep & lambs	1,000 head	4	440	Texas	1,200	7,026
Beef cows 5/	1,000 head	14	837	Texas	5,430	33,546
Breeding hogs & pigs	1,000 head	9	210	Iowa	1,160	6,244
Breeding sheep & lambs	1,000 head	9	210	Texas	950	5,163
Calf crop, 1999	1,000 head	16	870	Texas	5,150	38,710
Cattle on feed 6/	1,000 head	4	1,200	Texas	2,910	13,983
Egg production, 1999	Million	23	921	Ohio	8,193	82,707
Fed cattle marketings 7/	1,000 head	4	2,610	Texas	6,065	27,780
Lamb crop, 1999	1,000 head	8	210	Texas	700	4,719
Market hogs & pigs	1,000 head	15	700	Iowa	14,240	53,164
Milk cows 5/	1,000 head	29	83	California	1,490	9,188
Milk production, 1999	Mil lbs.	20	1,728	California	30,475	162,711
Market sheep & lambs	1,000 head	3	230	California	420	1,863
Pig crop, 1999	1,000 head	11	2,800	North Carolina	18,818	102,569
Wool production, 1999	1,000 lbs.	4	3,227	Texas	7,956	46,549
MISCELLANEOUS:						
Farms, 1999	Number	30	29,000	Texas	227,000	2,194,070
Land in farms 1999	1,000 acres	11	31,800	Texas	130,500	947,340
Average size of farm 1999	Acres	9	1,097	Wyoming	3,761	432

1/ Includes Durum wheat. 2/ Excludes Durum wheat. 3/ Fresh market except where noted as processing (P).
4/ Inventory January 1, 2000 for cattle and sheep; December 1, 1999 for hogs and chickens. 5/ Cows and heifers that have calved.
6/ As of 1/1/2000. 7/ 13 major feeding states.

Farms, land in farms, and average size, Colorado and U. S. , 1990-99

Year	Colorado			United States		
	Farms 1/	Land in farms	Average size	Farms 1/	Land in farms	Average size
	Number	1,000 Acres	Acres	Number	1,000 Acres	Acres
1990	26,500	33,100	1,249	2,145,820	986,850	460
1991	26,000	32,800	1,262	2,116,760	981,736	464
1992	25,500	32,800	1,286	2,107,840	978,503	464
1993	29,500	32,800	1,112	2,201,590	968,845	440
1994	29,500	32,700	1,108	2,197,690	965,935	440
1995	29,500	32,700	1,108	2,196,400	962,515	438
1996	29,500	32,500	1,101	2,190,500	958,675	437
1997	29,500	32,500	1,101	2,190,510	956,010	436
1998	29,500	32,200	1,092	2,191,360	953,500	435
1999	29,000	31,800	1,097	2,194,070	947,340	432

1/ Places with annual sales of agricultural products of $1,000 or more.

Livestock Operations: Number by type, Colorado, 1991-99

Year	All cattle operations	Beef cow operations 1/	Milk cow operations 1/	Cattle feedlots 1/ 2/	Sheep operations	Hog operations
	Number					
1991	14,500	10,500	1,400	295	2,000	1,800
1992	14,000	10,500	1,300	295	1,900	1,600
1993	14,000	10,500	1,300	295	1,800	1,600
1994	14,000	10,500	1,100	290	1,600	1,600
1995	14,000	10,000	1,000	290	1,300	1,400
1996	13,700	10,000	900	166	1,600	1,300
1997	14,700	10,200	900	174	1,600	1,200
1998	15,500	11,700	900	168	1,700	1,000
1999	15,000	11,200	900	162	1,500	500

1/ Included in all cattle operations.
2/ Beginning 1996 includes only feedlots with 1,000 head capacity or greater.

Cattle: Percent of operations and inventory by size group, by class, Colorado, 1994-99

Year/Class	Operations having				Inventory on operations having			
	1-49 Head	50-99 Head	100-499 Head	500+ Head	1-49 Head	50-99 Head	100-499 Head	500+ Head
	Percent				Percent			
1994								
All Cattle & Calves	47.9	14.3	30.0	7.8	3.4	4.6	28.0	64.0
Beef Cows	60.0	16.2	21.9	1.9	13.0	14.0	53.0	20.0
1995								
All Cattle & Calves	47.9	14.3	30.0	7.8	3.0	4.0	28.0	65.0
Beef Cows	58.0	14.0	26.0	2.0	11.0	12.0	57.0	20.0
1996								
All Cattle & Calves	48.9	13.1	30.0	8.0	3.2	3.8	29.0	64.0
Beef Cows	57.0	15.0	25.5	2.5	11.0	12.0	54.0	21.0
1997								
All Cattle & Calves	50.3	14.3	28.6	6.8	4.0	4.3	28.0	63.7
Beef Cows	56.8	16.7	24.0	2.5	11.0	13.0	56.0	22.0
1998								
All Cattle & Calves	52.2	16.8	23.9	7.1	4.6	5.6	24.0	65.8
Beef Cows	61.6	16.2	20.1	2.1	14.0	15.0	50.0	21.0
1999								
All Cattle & Calves	54.7	15.3	22.7	7.3	4.0	5.0	22.0	69.0
Beef Cows	63.4	15.2	19.2	2.2	14.0	14.0	48.0	24.0